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Dkt. 2271/65289-A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

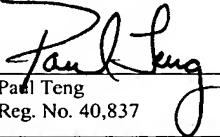
Application of: Yoshiyuki SASAKI

Serial No.: 10/789,235

Date Filed: February 27, 2004

For: INFORMATION REPRODUCING METHOD AND APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Paul Teng
Reg. No. 40,837

July 19, 2004

Date

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 278-0400

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The enclosed items were cited by the European Patent Office (EPO) in an official Communication and European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 01 30 5366 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the EPO Communication and European Search Report is enclosed.

According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action on the merits has not been issued in this application.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto. According to information received by the undersigned from applicants' Japanese patent attorneys who provide instructions concerning prosecution of this application to the undersigned, the enclosed EPO Communication and European Search Report were received by them on June 22, 2004.

Accordingly, no fees are believed to be required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837
Attorney for Applicant
Cooper & Dunham LLP
(212) 278-0400



Form PTO-144		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 2271/65289-A	Serial No. 10/789,235							
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant: Yoshiyuki SASAKI								
				Filing Date: February 27, 2004	Group Art Unit:							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS												
Examiner Initial	Document Number			Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate				
	5	6	5	9	7	9	9	8-19-1997	Wu et al.			
	5	9	8	2	7	2	6	11-9-1999	Ro et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS												
		Document Number			Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation			
									Yes	No		
JP	1	1	-	6	6	7	0	2	3-9-1999	Japan		Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)												
		January 27, 2003 official Communication and European Search Report in connection with European Patent Appl. No. EP 01 30 5366.										
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED									
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.												